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very simplicity, it seems impossible that other workers have not used the method, still the writer has been able to find no reference to it in embryological literature and he records it here, therefore, because he feels that it will be very serviceable to workers who have to handle such material.

The method consists simply in placing the egg on a bit of blotting paper and then rolling it over and over, thus reversing the small boy's method of rolling up a large snow ball. Either fresh or preserved eggs may in this way be rapidly removed from their envelopes and transferred by means of a spear-headed needle or a paper spatula to the fixing reagent. The method worked well on frog and salamander eggs that had been preserved in formalin for two years, and on millipede eggs which had been similarly preserved for over three years.

When using the method with certain kinds of fresh material, the eggs may be so soft that when finally unrolled from their coats they are drawn down so as to adhere tightly to the blotting paper. To avoid this, (1) roll them off onto a paper of harder texture just before the last trace of gelatinous film has been removed from their surfaces, or (2) first fix them (*e. g.*, in Gilson's mercurio-nitric mixture) and then, before further hardening in alcohol, roll them out of their envelopes on the blotter.

MICHAEL F. GUYER

The Star-nosed Mole on Long Island, N. Y.—In a recent (1902) list of the mammals of Long Island, Arthur H. Helme states that the only evidence of the presence of the star-nosed mole (*Condylura cristata*) on the island that has come to his knowledge is the finding of a single dead specimen. It seems then worth recording that on April 18 a star-nosed mole, which had been caught by a cat, was sent me from Great Neck, Long Island, by Miss Elise Gignoux.

JOHN TREADWELL NICHOLS

Notes.—Under the name *Cirrodrilus cirratus* U. Pierantoni has described¹ a peculiar-looking worm, about 3 mm. long, found as a parasite on the crayfish of Japan. It is cylindrical, and consists of a large head and following this eight body segments, the anterior six having short fleshy finger-like processes arranged in a transverse line on the ventral surface. The mouth is nearly surrounded by a ring of similar longer processes, whence the name *cirratus*. The mouth is armed with a pair of horny jaws like those of certain Branchiob-

¹ Bolletino Società di Naturalisti in Napoli, 19, 1905.

dellids with which group (or the Histriodrilids) the author is inclined to place it. The internal structure was not studied.

The Systematic Position of Trichoplax. Ever since its discovery Trichoplax has been one of the zoological problems, and now Thilo Krumbach of Breslau offers evidence¹ to show that it may be the planula of the hydroid Eleutheria. His proof is not conclusive but is based upon the histological similarities between the planula and Trichoplax, and upon the fact that Trichoplax appeared suddenly in great numbers in a tank where the nudusa *Eleutheria krohni* occurred. He suggests also that Monticellis *Treptoplax reptans* belongs to *Eleutheria clapedi*.

Caesar Böttger reports² *Petricola pholadiiformis* from the North Frisian Islands, and quotes also its presence from the East Frisian Islands. It has previously only been known from the Atlantic coast of America. It is now distributed over quite a territory and the problem is how and when did it reach the old world?

Kofoid points out³ that the genus Polykrikos which occurs abundantly at San Diego, California, is really a colonial infusorian consisting of two, four or rarely eight zooids and that its place is in the family Gymnodinidæ of the Dinoflagellates. Apparently the same species, *Polykrikos schwartzi* occurs on the Californian and European coasts. *P. auricularia* of Bergh is regarded as a synonym.

Haswell⁴ repeats his observation of Euglena-like organisms as intracellular parasites in rhabdocoele turbellarian worms.

The Museum at Bergen, Norway, has begun the publication of a series of monographs dealing with the marine fauna of the vicinity. The second and third *Hefte* issued last year, but only now received, deal with the Bryozoa by O. Nordgaard and the Decapod Crustacea by A. Appellöf.

J. S. KINGSLEY.

¹ Zool. Anzeiger, 31, p. 450, 1907.

² Zool. Anzeiger, 31, p. 268, 1907.

³ Zool. Anzeiger, 31, p. 291, 1907.

⁴ Zool. Anzeiger, 31, p. 296, 1907.